

REMARKS

The above Amendments and these Remarks are in reply to the Office Action mailed December 3, 2004.

Currently, claims 1-50 are pending. Applicants have amended claims 29 and 42 and cancelled claims 1 – 28, 30 – 41, and 43 – 50. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of claims 29 and 42.

I. Summary of the Examiner's Objections

Claims 1-16, 18-24, 26-28, 31-41 and 44-50 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Reuter et al. (US 6,745,207).

Claims 17, 25, 29, and 42 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reuter et al., in view of Pelligrino et al. (US 6,725,393).

Claims 30 and 43 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

II. Summary of the Amendments

Claims 29 and 42 are amended to include the subject matter of claims 30 and 43. Claims 1 – 28, 30 – 41, and 43 – 40 are cancelled.

III. Remarks

The Examiner indicated claims 30 and 43 contained allowable subject matter and such claims were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claims. Such claims were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claims. This amendment incorporates the subject matter of claim 30 and 43 into the base claims 29 and 42. It is therefore submitted that claims 29 and 42 are allowable.

Based on the above amendments and these remarks, reconsideration of claims 29 and 42 is respectfully requested.

The Examiner's prompt attention to this matter is greatly appreciated. Should further questions remain, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone.

Enclosed is a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 for extending the time to respond up to and including today, May 3, 2005.

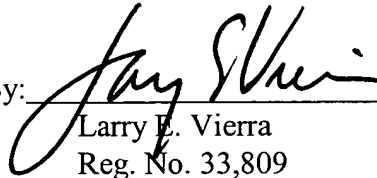
The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 501826 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

5-3-2005

By:



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